



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

August 20, 2010

Secretary Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant request for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (DOT) application for TIGER II funding for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass project. This is a collaborative project involving the Iowa DOT and many other agencies, including local municipalities, counties and chambers of commerce. The only U.S. highway serving Fort Madison, U.S. 61 runs directly through the downtown area. The current alignment includes three 90-degree turns, which are difficult for heavy trucks to navigate, and occasional flooding of one section which cuts off access to the Mississippi River bridge.

The project is included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the 2010-2014 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program.

I encourage your full consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Culver
Governor of Iowa

cc: Nancy Richardson, DOT



Iowa Department of Transportation

800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010

515-239-1111

FAX: 515-239-1120

August 13, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. of the Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant request for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I respectfully request your consideration of the Iowa Department of Transportation's (DOT) application for discretionary TIGER II funding for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass project. This is a collaborative project involving the Iowa DOT and many other agencies, including local municipalities, counties and chambers of commerce. The only U.S. highway serving Fort Madison, U.S. 61 runs directly through the downtown area. The current alignment includes three 90-degree turns, which are difficult for heavy trucks to navigate, and occasional flooding of one section which cuts off access to the Mississippi River bridge.

The project is included in the state Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and the 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program.

Should you have any questions or need additional information about this project, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Richardson
Director

NJR:ckw

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1502

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

August 19, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

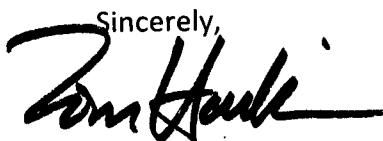
RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Grant Request for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (Iowa DOT's) application for TIGER II grant funding for a project to construct a 9.5-mile bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa. U.S. 61 is the only U.S. highway serving Fort Madison, and it runs directly through the downtown area. Problems with the original alignment include three 90-degree turns, which are difficult for heavy trucks to navigate, and occasional flooding of one section which cuts off access to the Mississippi River bridge.

The U.S. 61 bypass is a collaborative project involving the Iowa DOT and many other agencies including local municipalities, counties and chambers of commerce. The TIGER II funding requested would further this effort to remove regional traffic from the downtown core, thereby improving transportation infrastructure for freight and travelers, easing traffic congestion in the downtown area, and making way for restoration and revitalization of the city. In particular, construction of the bypass will allow the transportation of wind turbine blades from a local plant to points throughout the region, allowing the state of Iowa to contribute to and benefit from this emerging industry.

I respectfully urge your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


Tom Harkin
United States Senator

TH/jnm

DAVID LOEBSACK
2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
MILITARY PERSONNEL
READINESS

EDUCATION AND LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1502

August 16, 2010

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1221 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6576

DISTRICT OFFICES:
125 SOUTH DUBUQUE STREET
IOWA CITY, IA 52240
(319) 351-0789

150 1ST AVENUE NE
SUITE 375
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401
(319) 364-2288
1 (866) 914-IOWA

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

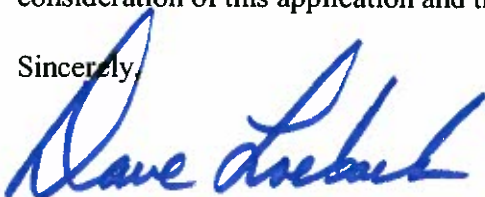
I write in support of consideration of the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application that will help construct a 9.5 mile highway bypass in Fort Madison, IA on U.S. Highway 61.

U.S. 61 was one of Iowa's original wagon roads and was first paved in 1937. This highway is the only highway that services Fort Madison. The current roadway can no longer accommodate the existing or projected traffic volumes in the area. Numerous at-grade cross street intersections and private access driveways do not meet current design standards and result in increasingly frequent periods of traffic congestion and higher crash rates. In addition, the current alignment of U.S. Highway 61 includes three ninety-degree turns and travels through downtown Fort Madison, which includes a section that is prone to flooding causing blockage of the town's bridge that crosses the Mississippi River.

This project has been developed in partnership with affected local governments as part of the statewide transportation planning process and is included in the regional and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. The U.S. 61 Fort Madison bypass project will help complete a four-lane expansion of the roadway in the state, connecting 6 major Iowa cities along the Mississippi river. Four lane completion of this roadway will be critical for further economic development in these cities in addition to a critical addition to the national transportation system. In particular, the bypass will ease the transportation of wind turbine blades from a local plant to points throughout the region, allowing the state of Iowa to continue to see the benefits of being a national leader in this emerging industry.

A TIGER grant will be a critical component in the overall financing package for this project combined with existing federal program funds and non-federal state and local funds. This investment will not only have a direct economic benefit in the creation and retention of construction-related jobs but also provide long-term economic, safety, mobility and environmental benefits for the region. I again respectfully urge timely consideration of this application and thank you for your time.

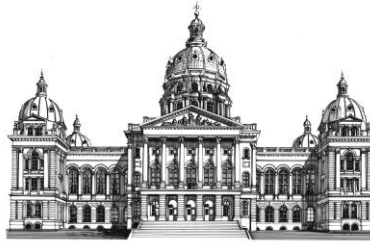
Sincerely,



Dave Loebuck
Iowa's Second District

EUGENE S. FRAISE
STATE SENATOR
Forty-sixth District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3371

HOME ADDRESS
1699 280th Avenue
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
H: (319) 528-6176
eugene.fraise@legis.state.ia.us



The Senate

State of Iowa
Eighty-third General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES

Agriculture, *Chair*
Appropriations
Ethics
Judiciary
Natural Resources & Environment
Justice System Appropriations
Subcommittee

August 12, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Grant Request for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I would like to share my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (Iowa DOT's) application for TIGER II grant funding for the construction of a bypass around Fort Madison, Iowa. At present, the only highway serving Fort Madison is U.S. 61, which runs directly through downtown.

A bypass would greatly improve the quality of life in Fort Madison, as the current highway is a detriment to downtown revitalization efforts. Charming Main Street communities are big part of what makes Iowa a great place to live and raise a family, but the large volume of heavy truck traffic in downtown Fort Madison detracts from the city's historic district. What's more, the current highway alignment includes dangerous 90-degree turns and occasional flooding of one section cuts off access to the Mississippi River bridge. By relieving freight traffic congestion downtown, we can spur economic development and make Fort Madison safer.

The bypass would also support the work of a local wind turbine plant, which requires an improved transportation network to transport large blades to cities throughout the region. I am proud of Iowa's leadership in clean energy, particularly wind, and this project would allow the state to continue leading the country forward in this emerging industry.

For these reasons, I enthusiastically support this project and respectfully urge your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene Fraise".

Senator Gene Fraise

Dave Heaton
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Ninety-First District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3221
e-mail – dave.heaton@legis.state.ia.us

HOME ADDRESS
510 E. Washington Street
Mount Pleasant, IA 52641
Home: (319) 385-9342



House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Eighty-Second General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES
Administrative Rules
Appropriations
Human Resources
Judiciary

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Health and Human Services,
Ranking Member

August 11, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Grant Request for the U.S. 61 Fort Madison Bypass

Dear Secretary LaHood:

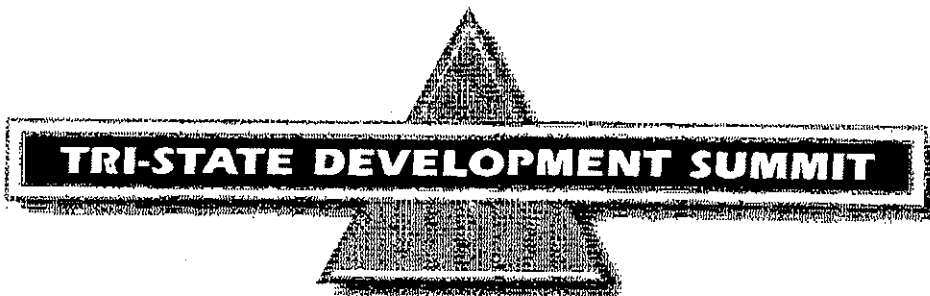
I am writing to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (Iowa DOT's) application for TIGER II grant funding for a project to construct a 9.5-mile bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa. U.S. 61 is the only U.S. highway serving Fort Madison, and it runs directly through the downtown area. Problems with the original alignment include three 90-degree turns, which are difficult for heavy trucks to navigate, and occasional flooding of one section which cuts off access to the Mississippi River bridge.

The U.S. 61 bypass is a collaborative project involving the Iowa DOT and many other agencies including local municipalities, counties and chambers of commerce. The TIGER II funding requested would further this effort to remove regional traffic from the downtown core, thereby improving transportation infrastructure for freight and travelers, easing traffic congestion in the downtown area, and making way for restoration and revitalization of the city. In particular, construction of the bypass will allow the transportation of wind turbine blades from a local plant to points throughout the region, allowing the state of Iowa to contribute to and benefit from this emerging industry.

I respectfully urge your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Dave Heaton
State Representative #91



September 4, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Tri-State Development Summit would like to request and encourage your support for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIBER) discretionary grant for the US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa.

Transportation plays a vital role in our region. The Tri-State Development Summit has worked tirelessly for the past 13 years to improve transportation throughout our entire region. We have spoken with one voice and adopted a set of highway priorities for our region. While still a ways to go, when complete we will have in place the highway infrastructure necessary to insure the economic growth of this tri-state region well into the 21st century.

Your consideration and support in this matter is greatly appreciated and vital to our regional economy.

Kind Regards,

Shelby Crow
Tri-State Development Summit, coordinator
217-223-8380



Keokuk

**Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors**

Fort Madison • Keokuk

Gary Folluo – Chairman

Rick Larkin – Vice Chair

Larry W. Kruse – Supervisor

Ernest Schiller – Supervisor

Janet Fife-LaFrenz – Supervisor



Fort Madison

September 1, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: IDOT TIGER Grant
Hwy 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa

Dear Secretary LaHood,

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for funds from the IDOT TIGER Grant application for the Highway 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa which is being coordinated by the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT).

The Lee County Board of Supervisors support the regional transportation project to improve connectivity and fulfill transportation needs of the region by providing safe and free-flowing connection Iowa by way of the Highway 61 Bypass. The improved facility will provide for traffic service to the major employment center of Southeast Iowa; serve as a direct connection to the interstate system; provide adequate capacity for good traffic service in areas where congestion now occurs; provide the entire corridor areas with a safer means of travel than presently exists; and provide convenient access to and from neighboring communities.

If the purpose of the TIGER Grant is to greatly enhance economic development, then we believe this project is highly qualified and should be given every consideration to receive funds from this grant to insure its completion.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact us if we can provide you with additional information.

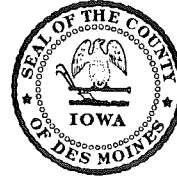
Sincerely,

Gary Folluo, Chairman
Lee County Board of Supervisors

Post Office Box 488 • Fort Madison, Iowa 52627 • Telephone 319-372-6557 • Fax 319-372-8200

Des Moines County, Iowa

Board of Supervisors



513 N Main St
PO Box 784
Burlington, IA 52601

Phone: 319-753-8203
Fax: 319-753-8227

Jeff M. Heland,, Chair
Dan E. Cahill, Member

Robert W. Beck, Vice Chair

September 1, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 new Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Re: US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa

As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, funding has been made available through a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant for the US 61 bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa.

The Des Moines County Board of Supervisors is supporting the Highway 61 bypass of Fort Madison, as this funding will create jobs while greatly expanding economic development opportunities in the area. The current roadway through Fort Madison was paved in 1937. Currently one third of the vehicles traveling per day are commercial trucks. Numerous intersections and private driveways do not meet current design standards and result in increasingly frequent periods of traffic congestion and higher numbers of accidents. In addition, very high truck volumes also place a significant strain on the design integrity of current roadway.

This funding would allow for the building of a 9 mile-long four-lane bypass around the city of Fort Madison. Highway 61 serves as one of the key north-south routes along Iowa's eastern border connecting seven of Iowa's largest cities, including other smaller cities in Des Moines County. As indicated by the high volume of commercial vehicles, the roadway provides vital access to Iowa's business and industry located in the eastern third of Iowa as well as portions of western Illinois and Wisconsin.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Jeff M. Heland in black ink.

Jeff M. Heland, Chairman

Handwritten signature of Robert W. Beck in black ink.

Robert W. Beck, Vice-Chair

Handwritten signature of Daniel E. Cahill in black ink.

Daniel E. Cahill, Member

cc/gsw



CITY OF FORT MADISON
811 Avenue E, P.O. Box 240
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627-0240
319-372-7700 • Fax 319-372-8661

September 2, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I wanted to write and join my voice to the many others I am sure you have heard in support of the U.S. 61 Bypass project around the City of Fort Madison, Iowa. As the Mayor of Fort Madison, I support this project for the following reasons:

- *Strengthen the Region Economically.* The Fort Madison area has had a number of positive projects happen in the area including the addition of a Siemens Wind Blade manufacturing facility. This bypass will strengthen our regional transportation system and help us attract even more jobs to the area.
- *Improve Regional Quality of Life.* The Fort Madison area is a great place to live and raise a family. This bypass is going to provide a better route through our region for large commercial trucks that will make our local city streets safer for families in Fort Madison. The bypass also provides better access to regional attractions and allows people to enjoy the wonderful lifestyle that rural Iowa provides without sacrificing all of the amenities found only in larger cities.
- *Further Regional Cooperation.* The bypass has already increased the level of regional cooperation. The Cities of West Point and Fort Madison along with Lee County have worked together to secure an interchange along the bypass that will benefit all of the interested parties.

Again Mr. Secretary, please accept my full support for the U.S. 61 Bypass project and the application for funding through the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (319) 372-7700x207.

Sincerely,


Steven J. Ireland
Mayor

City of West Point

313 FIFTH STREET
WEST POINT, IOWA 52656

PHONE: 319/837-6313

FAX: 319/837-6010

August 31, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: TIGER Discretionary Grant for US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa

Sir:

I am pleased to submit this letter in support of the Iowa Department of Transportation's application for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant for the US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa project.

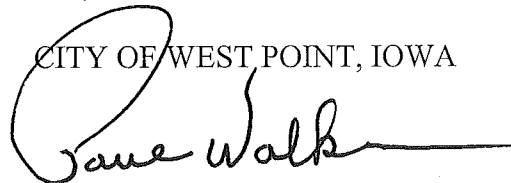
This important project will be extremely critical to the growth and development of the West Point area as it will expedite the outbound shipments from Arctic Glacier Premium Ice, an ice manufacturing plant with more than 5,000 outbound loads per year, and Merschman Seed Inc., a mid-level seed company doing business in 10 midwest states, providing convenient access to US 34 and Interstate 80.

Additionally, this project will greatly improve the quality of life for the driving public in the surrounding communities by significantly reducing the driving time and congestion of passing through Fort Madison.

It is respectfully requested that every consideration be given to the TIGER grant application being submitted by the Iowa Department of Transportation for this important and necessary project.

Very truly yours,

CITY OF WEST POINT, IOWA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Walker", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul Walker, Mayor



September 4, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Honorable Ray LaHood,

Regional Planning: Lee County, Iowa is located along the Upper Mississippi River in the southeastern-most corner of Iowa, bordered by the Mississippi River to the east, the Des Moines River to the south, and the Skunk River to its north. This area has numerous assets to attract and retain area residents and business entities, provided adequate highway connectivity is in place and linking rail, lock and dam and regional airport systems. The US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison is key to this intermodal transportation network. When completed, the Bypass will enable the county to match resources with capabilities and create a competitive environment for growth.

Contributing to Growth in the Region: The southeast Iowa region and Lee County in particular, has realized some success in renewable energy with the construction of Siemens Power Generation Incorporated and wind turbine manufacturing. The creation of the Southeast Iowa Regional Economic and Port Authority through state legislation by Fort Madison, Keokuk and Lee County, will enhance the economic development and prosperity of the area. The Fort Madison Bypass, which will additionally serve as the eastern terminus of Iowa Hwy 2 (running the length of the State of Iowa) and the eastern gateway of J40 (serving incorporated communities in the heart of Lee and neighboring counties of Van Buren and Davis), will enhance economic development and prosperity of Lee County and Iowa as a whole.

Improving Quality of Life and Work Environment: Laborshed studies released in April 2009 for Lee County, site of US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, reports that unemployment rate is currently at 9.3%, or 16.7% if the 7.4% under-employed rate is factored in. The underemployed are composed of individuals who are working fewer than 35 hours per week but desire more hours. Additional hours are desired to access health insurance and improve quality of life. It is noted that the average unemployment rate of the Great Depression years 1929 through 1936 was 16.9%, or just 0.2% above the current Lee County total rate.

Highway 61 Coalition respectfully requests that the US Department of Transportation fund the completion of US 61 in Iowa to include - Bypass of Fort Madison and completion of the Burlington to Muscatine corridor through Des Moines and Louisa Counties.

Sincerely,



August 28, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Av., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Lee County Economic Development Group, Inc. (LCEDG), I am writing in support of the Iowa Department of Transportation's TIGER application for funding for the US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa. LCEDG is Lee County's primary economic development organization.

In the competitive business of economic development, every possible "edge" is a significant boost to our ability to encourage new business and to maintain existing enterprises. With the most recent unemployment rate for Lee County at 10.0, LCEDG considers the construction of the Bypass essential vital for retaining and growing our population, for attracting new business and industry as well as for sustaining existing companies' investments in the area.

Recent planning documents for Lee County and the Southeast Iowa Great River Region have focused on transportation issues that would be ameliorated with the construction of the US 61 Bypass. For Southeast Iowa to be a competitive player in an increasingly global trade economy, the region must have an efficient and effective transportation system. Just-in-time manufacturing and advanced logistics companies need a seamless system while employees must have a reasonable commute time and visitors must be encouraged to come our way. All must have access to a safe route for business or personal travel.

LCEDG is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Iowa's application for funding for the US 61 Bypass for Fort Madison. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I or LCEDG can offer additional comment for the project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Knapp
Lee County Economic Development Group, Inc.
110 Main Street Suite 200
Montrose, IA 52639
Telephone: 319-463-5599
E-mail: yvonne@lcedg.com



200 Front Street, Suite 400
Burlington, Iowa 52601

Tel: 319.753.5107
Fax: 319.754.4763
Website: www.seirpc.com

August 31, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary,

On behalf of the Southeast Iowa Regional Bus (SEIBUS), I am writing this letter to offer our support for the US 61 Bypass of Ft. Madison, Iowa.

SEIBUS serves four counties in southeast Iowa. Both cities of Ft. Madison and Keokuk both lie in the southern region of the four counties on US 61, and will be most affected by the bypass. US 61 currently passes through the business district of Ft. Madison with many stoplights and turns. This is both time consuming and inconvenient for passengers that are coming and going to Keokuk. The bypass will provide easier and safer access to north and south bound US 61 traffic.

SEIBUS has two very important routes that we serve everyday and this project would help alleviate the existing traffic congestion.

SEIBUS is proud to support the application of this grant and we look forward to lending any assistance to bring this project to fruition. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Kuskowski

Transit Director, SEIBUS



200 Front Street, Suite 400
Burlington, Iowa 52601

Tel: 319.753.5107
Fax: 319.754.4763
Website: www.seirpc.com

September 2, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, I am writing in support of the US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison, Iowa.

SEIRPC serves four counties in southeast Iowa. Lee County and Des Moines County are located within our four county region, and their residents use US 61 regularly as a major transportation route. US 61 currently passes through the business district of Ft. Madison and slows down the traffic flow considerably. The bypass will provide easier and safer access to north and south bound US 61 traffic.

SEIRPC is excited to support the application of this grant and we look forward to seeing this much anticipated project become a reality. Thank you for your consideration of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Brian Tapp
Executive Director

dl





September 4, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Honorable Ray LaHood,

Regional Planning: Lee County, Iowa is located along the Upper Mississippi River in the southeastern-most corner of Iowa, bordered by the Mississippi River to the east, the Des Moines River to the south, and the Skunk River to its north. This area has numerous assets to attract and retain area residents and business entities, provided adequate highway connectivity is in place and linking rail, lock and dam and regional airport systems. The US 61 Bypass of Fort Madison is key to this intermodal transportation network. When completed, the Bypass will enable the county to match resources with capabilities and create a competitive environment for growth.

Contributing to Growth in the Region: The southeast Iowa region and Lee County in particular, has realized some success in renewable energy with the construction of Siemens Power Generation Incorporated and wind turbine manufacturing. The creation of the Southeast Iowa Regional Economic and Port Authority through state legislation by Fort Madison, Keokuk and Lee County, will enhance the economic development and prosperity of the area. The Fort Madison Bypass, which will additionally serve as the eastern terminus of Iowa Hwy 2 (running the length of the State of Iowa) and the eastern gateway of J40 (serving incorporated communities in the heart of Lee and neighboring counties of Van Buren and Davis), will enhance economic development and prosperity of Lee County and Iowa as a whole.

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Highway 61 Coalition respectfully requests that the US Department of Transportation fund the completion of US 61 in Iowa to include - Bypass of Fort Madison and completion of the Burlington to Muscatine corridor through Des Moines and Louisa Counties.

Sincerely,

Vern Meierotto
Chairman of the Highway 61 Coalition
(319) 470-6660
vmeierotto@lisco.com